



Congressman

John M. McHugh

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McHUGH REVISES BILL TO MODERNIZE THE NATION'S POSTAL LAWS
Subcommittee to Consider H.R. 22 in September

WASHINGTON – Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN), Chairman of the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, and Rep. John M. McHugh (R-NY), Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Postal Service, have scheduled a session to consider H.R. 22, Rep. McHugh's legislation to modernize the laws governing the U.S. Postal Service. The Subcommittee will meet Wednesday, September 23, 10 a.m. in 2154 Rayburn House Office Building. Rep. McHugh today released revised legislative language for H.R. 22 that is based on extensive public feedback to the proposed legislation.

"Moving this bill through the Subcommittee is the next major milestone in the process," Rep. McHugh said. "We have established the need for postal reform and considered the issues in an open and public debate. Now is the time for the Subcommittee to take the next step toward modernizing outdated postal laws so that the American public can be assured of a viable postal system well into the 21st century."

H.R. 22 would update the nation's postal laws for the first time since the Postal Service was created from the Post Office Department in 1971. The Postal Service currently operates in a competitive and dynamic communications marketplace that did not exist when it was created 27 years ago. The legislation would give the Postal Service greater freedom to compete while establishing rules to ensure fair competition and protect the public interest. The Subcommittee has focused on postal reform issues for nearly four years, including an in-depth examination of Rep. McHugh's legislation, which he originally introduced in June 1996.

"The updated H.R. 22 reflects the vast input the Subcommittee has received from the public and all members of the postal community, including the feedback we received earlier this year through our 'online hearing.' In addition to those responses, the Subcommittee has had more than dozen hearings where we had the benefit of hearing from more than 60 witnesses who testified on H.R. 22, the challenges facing our outdated postal system, and the need to modernize our nation's postal laws," Rep. McHugh said. "Indeed, there has been no shortage of debate or public comment on this bill."

In addition to a sectional analysis and summary, the text of Rep. McHugh's revised legislative language for H.R. 22 is available in Room B-349C of the Rayburn House Office Building, or on the Subcommittee's website, (<http://www.house.gov/reform/postal/>).

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